

Dr IAN W. CARSON, MD. FFARCSI.

GENERAL PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Graduated MB, BCh, BAO, Queen's University, Belfast (1968).
- Resident House Officer, Royal Victoria Hospital (1968/69).
- Post-graduate training posts in anaesthesia within the rotational scheme sponsored by the N.Ireland Council for Post-Graduate Medical and Dental Education (1969-1974).
- Research Fellow, Dept. of Anaesthetics, Queens University, Belfast (1971 - 1972)
- Graduated MD (Hons), Queen's University, Belfast (1974).
- Assistant Professor, Stanford University Medical School, USA (1974/75)
- Appointed as Consultant Anaesthetist to the Cardiac Surgical Unit at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast in October 1975.

I worked in a full-time capacity as a Consultant Anaesthetist in the Cardiac Surgical Unit up to my appointment as Trust Medical Director in 1993. From 1993 up until my appointment as Deputy Chief Medical Officer (DHSSPS), I continued to deliver clinical services in the unit on one day per week, including emergency out of hours on-call duties.

I ceased clinical practice on my full-time appointment as Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DHSSPS

ADDITIONAL CAREER HISTORY

Postgraduate Education:

- Appointed Faculty/College Tutor (Royal College of Anaesthetists) for the Royal Group of Hospitals (1978-86)
- Elected Board Member, Faculty of Anaesthetists, RCSI (1985-90); Chairman, Examinations Committee (1988-90)
- Appointed N.Ireland Regional Educational Adviser, Royal College of Anaesthetists, London (1988-1996)

Clinical Director, Anaesthetics & Intensive Care

Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospital HSS Trust.
(April 1990 to March 1993)

In the late 1980's the Royal Group of Hospitals introduced a resource management initiative and I was appointed as the first Clinical Director for anaesthesia and intensive care in April 1990.

The Directorate was expanded to incorporate the Operating Theatre Services in April 1991. It was my responsibility to encourage, motivate, and involve my clinical colleagues in this process. This included the development and implementation of systems and structures that enabled the Directorate to function more efficiently while retaining high standards of quality and clinical effectiveness.

Medical Director and Deputy Chief Executive

Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospital HSS Trust.

(April 1993 to July 2002)

Reporting to, and accountable to, the Chief Executive.

In addition to the usual professional roles and corporate responsibilities expected of a Medical Director at Board level, namely, professional leadership; maintenance of standards of professional performance; workforce and clinical service planning; development of teaching and research; development of external relations with the N.Ireland Department of Health & Social Services, Health Boards and GPs; liaison with Queen's University, Post-Graduate Council, Medical Royal Colleges, GMC and BMA; and medical disciplinary matters, I was involved in the following:

- Selection and recruitment of new consultants. Over 105 appointments (incl. 18 Joint Appointment with Queen's University Belfast)
- Project Board membership for major capital redevelopment scheme for the Royal Victoria Hospital.
- Audit Committee of Northern Ireland Council for Post-graduate Medical and Dental Education (1997 – 1999).
- Clinical lead responsibility for introduction and implementation of Clinical Governance.
- Part-time secondment as Special Adviser to the DHSS on Clinical Governance (1999 – 2002).

I was a founder member of the British Association of Medical Managers (BAMM), and was elected to the Board of the Association of Trust Medical Directors.

- Special interest in the development of medical appraisal, and handling doctors with performance difficulties.

Deputy Chief Medical Officer

DHSSPS

(August 2002 – Jan 2006)

Key accountabilities:

I reported directly to the Chief Medical Officer, and provided regular briefings and advice to Minister and senior officials in the DHSSPS and other government departments on health issues.

Key areas of responsibility:

- To ensure an effective medical contribution to the formulation and implementation of policy for the provision of health and personal social services in Northern Ireland.
- To provide direct medical input to the work of the Department, advising on such matters as: -
 - Management and policy issues within the Health Service.
 - Medical workforce planning and development.
 - Professional regulation.
 - Health Service support of undergraduate medical education.
 - Postgraduate training in medicine and continuing medical education.
 - Development of the modernisation, quality and safety agenda through clinical and social care governance.
- My main area of responsibility within the Medical & Allied Branch of the DHSS&PS was in the area of Professional Standards and in the development of the Quality and Safety agenda. I was the medical lead on the implementation of 'Best practice, Best Care', Northern Ireland's Quality Framework policy document.
- I chaired the Safety in Health and Social Care Steering which was responsible for a number of initiatives, including the development of a Safety Framework for the Health & Personal Social Services (HPSS) in Northern Ireland
- I chaired the advisory team that prepared 'Confidence in the Future', the consultation document on the prevention, recognition and management of poor performance of doctors in Northern Ireland
- I chaired the Department's Appraisal & Revalidation Steering Group
- I provided leadership and support to Trust Medical Directors throughout Northern Ireland, and co-ordinated regular meetings on behalf of the CMO.
- I was the medical member of the Developing Better Services Implementation Steering Group, which is responsible for the Modernisation Agenda in Northern Ireland.

- I chaired the Claims & Litigation Steering Group, which is responsible for the implementation of recommendations of the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) Report on Compensation Payments for Clinical Negligence.
- I chaired the Departmental Health & Social Care Records Steering Group, which was also established following the above NIAO Report.
- I chaired the Health and Care Number Implementation Steering Group. This will oversee the introduction of a new unique Health & Social Care identifier for the population of Northern Ireland, and forms one of the key strands of the Modernisation Agenda and the ICT Strategy.
- I chaired the Department's Steering Group, which was responsible for implementation of the recommendations of the Human Organ Inquiry.
- I co-chaired an Inter-Departmental Working Group established with Northern Ireland Court Service, to oversee the implementation of new proposals for the Review of Death Certification and Reform of the Coroners Service.
- I represented the Department on the four UK countries Inter-Departmental Group that established the PMETB, and acted as the Northern Ireland Observer. I also represent Northern Ireland on the UK Strategy Group overseeing the introduction of 'Modernising Medical Careers', and chaired the Northern Ireland Implementation Steering Group.
- I co-chaired the DHSSPS Shipman Programme Board.

Other appointments:

- Northern Ireland Clinical Excellence Awards Scheme Committee member.
Jan 2002 – August 2008.

Acting Chief Medical Officer

DHSSPS [Jan - April 2006]

- Close working relationship with the other 3 UK CMOs

Publications:

Over 30 peer reviewed articles published in the medical literature up to 1993.

Presentations

Up to 1990, I had made 25 presentations at regional, national or international conferences and seminars on various aspects of pharmacological and clinical management of patients, mostly relating to anaesthesia or intensive care of patients undergoing cardiac surgery.

From 1990 to April 2005 I have given over 60 presentations at regional, national or international conferences and seminars in two main areas:

- The role of doctors in health service management, and
- Clinical and social care governance.

I have not kept a record of presentations since April 2005, including my time as Chairman of RQIA.

Learned societies:

Currently

- Fellow of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, now the College of Anaesthetists, Ireland.
- Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.
- Registered with the General Medical Council.

Previously

- Northern Ireland Society of Anaesthetists.
- Association of CardioThoracic Anaesthetists (U.K. & Ire).
- European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthetists.
- Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists (U.S.A.).
- Intensive Care Society.
- British Medical Association.
- British Association of Medical Managers.
- Association of Trust Medical Directors

Retired from service April 2006

Current Appointment:

Chairman, Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)

- Non-Executive Public Appointment w.e.f 1st June 2006
- Presently in the middle of my second 4 year (and final) term.

The RQIA was established under Article 3 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003. Although accountable to the Department, it is an independent health and social care regulatory body, whose functions include:

1. Keeping the Department informed about the provision, availability and quality of health and social care services;
2. Promoting improvement in the quality of health and social care services by, for example, disseminating advice on good practice and standards;
3. Reviewing and reporting on clinical and social care governance in the HSC - the RQIA also undertakes a programme of planned thematic and

governance reviews across a range of subject areas, reporting to the Department and the Health and Social Care and making recommendations to take account of good practice and service improvements. Such reviews may be instigated by RQIA or commissioned by the Department;

4. Regulating (registering and inspecting) a wide range of health and social care services. Inspections are based on a new set of minimum care standards, which ensures that both the public and service providers know what quality of services is expected. Establishments and agencies regulated by the RQIA include nursing and residential care homes; children's homes; independent hospitals; clinics; nursing agencies; day care settings for adults; residential family centres; adult placement agencies and voluntary adoption agencies. The Reform Act also transferred the functions of the former Mental Health Commission to the RQIA with effect from 1 April 2009. The RQIA now has a specific responsibility for keeping under review the care and treatment of patients and clients with a mental disorder or learning disability.

The RQIA is also the enforcement authority under the Ionising Radiation and Medical Exposure (Amendment) Regulations (N.I.) 2010 [IRMER] and is one of the four designated National Preventive Mechanisms under the United Nations Optional Protocol for the Convention against Torture [OPCAT] with a responsibility to visit individuals in places of detention and to prevent inhumane or degrading treatment. RQIA also conducts a rolling programme of hygiene inspections in HSC hospitals.

The Department can ask the RQIA to provide advice, reports or information on such matters relating to the provision of services or the exercise of its functions as may be specified in the Department's request. The RQIA may also advise the Department about any changes which it considers should be made in the standards set by the Department.
